



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Retro Fit and Replacement of a Bat Gate – Florence #7

LOCATION: Red Rock Canyon State Park

COUNTY: Kern

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

The project is to retro fit and replace a bat gate that has failed due to vandalism, which has created a significant public safety hazard. In 2007, in conjunction with the Department of Conservation Abandoned Mines Lands Unit, a complete inventory of abandoned mines was completed for Red Rock Canyon State Park. The inventory indicated that there were over 55 +/- abandoned mines and features were located within the Park. As part of this inventory process, a remediation work plan was developed to identify and prioritize these abandoned mines and features for closure with the Park. Florence #7 is a complex mine with one large adit and several horizontal adits. It's estimated that there is at least 100 meters of underground workings. There is a danger for human safety as it contains a flooded section within the main adit. The main portal has extensive creep debris and rock slippage from surrounding hillside. The project is to remove the existing bat gate and replace with a new improved bat gate that will allow bats and other wildlife to use the abandoned mine as a habitat. The existing gate will be removed and replaced with a culver bat gate with horizontal angle inserts. A bat / wildlife friendly gate will be installed onsite and anchored into the rock. The front portal of the adit will be secured and stabilized using reinforced steel to prevent ongoing creep debris and rock slippage from surrounding hillside.

DPR-approved standard project requirements have been incorporated into this project. A copy of these requirements may be obtained by submitting a request to the project Environmental Coordinator listed below

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Tehachapi

EXEMPT STATUS:

- ☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
☐ Statutory Exemption (Section)
☒ Categorical Exemption
Class: 1 Section(s): 15301

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

No potential for significant impacts to the environment is anticipated in compliance with Section 15300.2.
There will be negligible or no expansion of existing use (class 1)

CONTACT: Russ Dingman, District Environmental Coordinator
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Kathy Weatherman
District Superintendent, Tehachapi District

Date